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MUSCOGEE NATION CROWNS NEW PRINCESSES

NORIEGA AND MCHENRY CROWNED AS 2021-2022 JR. MISS AND MISS MCN

Lani Hansen

SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma-The 2021 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Scholarship pageant took place on June 4 virtu-

The pageant started with introductions from the Jr. Miss MCN contestants, following was the explanations of their traditional clothing. There was three young ladies who competed for the title. The three contestants were Gabrielle Noriega, Sutv Harjo and Kayton Bruner.

Each of the pageant the contestants performed a traditional talent. Noriega read a poem called "Remember" by Joy Harjo. Sutv Harjo

prepared a powerpoint presentation on lessons of bow making. She was accepted into the 2019 Summer Youth Arts Mentorship, where she was taught by her mentor John John Brown on how to make a long bow. Bruner performed an instrumental to Amazing Grace.

The final category for the Jr. Miss competition was the impromptu questions. Each contestant had to answer a question with their best response that was drawn from a basket.

In the next portion of the pageant, the Miss MCN categories was laid out the same as the Jr. Miss. There was two contestants who com-

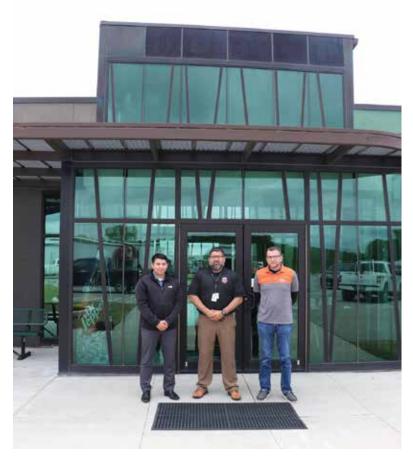
ROYALTY- 2



Pictured are Principal Chief David Hill and Councilman Randall Hicks with Tema Yargee (Miss MCN first runner-up), 2021-2022 Miss MCN Claudia McHenry, 2021-2022 Jr. Miss MCN Gabrielle Noriega, Sutv Harjo (Jr. Miss MCN contestant) and Kayton Bruner (Jr. Miss MCN first runner-up).

TRIBAL PROGRAM OFFERS CITIZENS NEW JOB SKILLS

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MCN REINTEGRATION PROGRAM AND OSUIT INTRODUCE NEW PROGRAM WITH HIGH DEMAND FOR EMPLOYMENT



MCN Reintegration Outreach Specialist Mark Harjo, MCN Reintegration Sr. Case Worker James Bender and OSUIT Outreach Specialist Brad Smith helped make this new program possible for citizens.

Morgan Taylor

HENRYETTA, Oklahoma-The Muscogee Nation Reintegration Program (MN RIP) along with Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology (OSUIT) have partnered together to open a new program for MCN citizens.

A 12-week Fiber Technician Training Program will be made available for application to citizens this month. At this time, there will only be 10-12 spots available.

The projected start date will be July 12 and classes will be held at the Reintegration campus located at 615 E Corporation in Henryetta.

MN RIP Sr. Case Worker James Bender claims the application process will be one that evaluates physical ability, will include a drug screening, the ability to obtain a CDL, ability to travel for work, and

DEDICATION CEREMONY ACKNOWLEDGES NATIVE LANDS

SIGNS WERE PUT UP DEDICATED TO EDUCATING THE PUBLIC OF **MVSKOKE AND OSAGE CULTURE AT** MIDLAND VALLEY TRAIL



Citizen Aaron Griffin and Tatianna Duncan unveil the new signs that are displayed throughout the three-mile trail. (Submission)

Morgan Taylor

REPORTER

TULSA, Oklahoma -The Midland Valley Trail OUTREACH - 2 | is a three-mile trail that runs through land that once belonged to Muscogee People but still lies within the Muscogee Reservation.

On June 2, street signs

SIGN-2

SEVERE FLASH FLOODS CLOSE TRIBE

MCN LIGHTHORSE FORCED TO FIND TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS AFTER FLASH FLOODS

Angel Ellis

DIRECTOR

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma-Parts of US-75, many streets and roadways throughout the Muscogee Nation Reservation, and even tribal head quarters were closed due severe flooding on June 7 when over 13 inches of rain flooded the tribal complex.

Lighthorse was forced to closed road access to the tribal offices. According to a post by MCN Principal Chief David Hill, "Emergency Management, IT, Facilities, GSA and Risk Management departments were able to minimize damage."



A view of MCN Child care facility shows the rapid swelling of a creek that runs through the tribal complex. The flash flooding caused the closing of the complex and a temporary relocation of Lighthorse.

ROYALTY

Continued from Page 1

peted for the Miss MCN title, Claudia McHenry and Tema Yargee.

Each contestant shared traditional talent.

McHenry delivered a story "How Deer Fooled Rabbit." Yargee read a poem called "Ribbons" which she wrote herself, inspired by how important her ceremonial grounds are to her.

Just like the Jr. Miss portion, in the final category the Miss MCN contestants had to answer an impromptu question.

Jr. Miss MCN Jadyn Randall presented a farewell presentation at the end of the pageant before the announcement of the new princesses.

The Miss Congeniality award was presented to McHenry. In the Jr. Miss portion, Bruner received first runner-up and in the Miss MCN portion Yargee received first run-

The new 2021-2022 Jr.

Miss MCN went to Gabrielle Noriega, and the 2021-2022 Miss MCN is Claudia McHenry. They made their first appearance on June 9 during the drive-by reception, which was in front of the MCN Executive build-

OUTREACH

Continued from Page 1

churches and neighborhoods but some are willing to work with that."

Climbing gear will be necessary to start the course including boots, proper clothing, and a harness. These items can be provided to tribal citizens through RIP programs or MCN Employment and Training.

According to OSUIT Outreach Specialist Brad Smith, this new training was made available for the high demand of employment in the field.

"The 5G rollout has created a lot of demand for fiber

technicians and it is a very well compensated occupation typically starting out at \$2,000 a week," Smith explains. "From there on, depending on the experience that they get, technicians can make anywhere from \$2,600-\$3,000 a week."

The training will include eight weeks of in-person classroom training then four weeks of a paid internship with a 100 percent guaranteed job placement.

"We have four companies currently that are fighting over graduates before they get here," Smith said. "That's a good problem to have."

Smith claims that internships may send citizens out to other states and should

expect travel throughout the career of being a fiber tech-

Ervin Cable, Superior Utilities, and USA cable are just a few of the companies on the growing list that provide internships and employment placement to the programs' completers.

The eight weeks in class will be a traditional face-toface instructor format. Covered topics include: pole climbing; including learning to climb in the power zone, jiggling or pulling fiber from start to finish, introduction to fiber splicing: both residential and commercial, learning to splice, hanging strand and fiber and lashing them together, hanging self support and sagging to proper tensions and troubleshooting. OSHA 10 and CPR Certification also included.

"They start off learning climbing because the fiber is hung within the first 15 feet of the pole," Smith said. "They learn cable lashing, the lasher does the connections from cable to cable and they will learn about the different types of fiber within the cable. The main goal is to operate safely so they can make it home each night."

A fear for heights is something to be aware of before entering this program as climbing poles is a primary aspect of the fiber technician

In Smith's research he has

discovered the industry to be growing and ever evolving.

"A lot of our infrastructure is 20-30 years out of date, especially in the local area and other states are experiencing the same problem," Smith explains. "Some states are still operating on 3G and 4G while 5G has been out now for over a year."

"So there's a lot of catching up to do and by the time it's caught up something else is going to come along."

This training will prepare someone for a lifetime career, according to Smith.

MN Citizens with questions about the training or application should contact Mark Harjo at MN Reintegration at 918-549-2632.

SIGN

Continued from Page 1

were unveiled during a ceremony led by former Principal Chief James Floyd. The ceremony was a dedication to the Tribal Nations, to the people who once owned the land and their families.

In Muscogee language each sign reads, "Locv Pokv Tvlse Mvskoke."

According to College of Muscogee Nation Instructor Mvhayv Marshall the phrase translates to "Where the Turtle People Gather."

It was Muscogee citizen Aaron Griffith that initiated the project.

Griffith wrote applied for the "Make Tulsa Awesome," grant through the Tulsa Young Professionals Foundation (TYPF). With the funding supplied through the grant the signs featuring Mvskoke and Osage language

Griffith claims the idea

came to him during quarantine initiated by the pandemic and that's when he decided to work on the proj-

With the help of the Muscogee Cultural and Historic Preservation Department and the Osage Nation Wahzhazhe Cultural Center, Griffin was able to obtain the translation needed for the street signs.

According to Griffith there are 13 signs on each road where the trail crosses.

Griffith reached out to Tatianna Duncan, the owner and founder of the Lucinda Hickory Research Institute to speak at the ceremony.

Duncan's research has helped trace the majority of the lands to Sam Tuckabache, an original allottee who once owned the property where the trail is located.

Other special guests in attendance included Principal Chief David Hill, Wotko Long, the Muscogee Nation Honor Guard, Representa-

tive James Jennings, Representative Lucian Tiger III, Muscogee Historic and Cultural Preservation GIS Cultural Specialist Gano Perez, Representatives from the TYPF, and families and descendants from the original allottees of the land.

To learn more about the story of Sam Tuckabache from Duncan with the Lucinda Hickory Research Institute visit, https://www. youtube.com/watch?v=7k-2bh9PngGg.

WEATHER

Continued from Page 1

Tribal facilities were able to resume work the follow-

"We also had employees go above and beyond to check on some of our citizens were in high waters areas," Chief Hill said.

According to Okmulgee County Emergency Management, there were around 30 water rescues conducted during the downpour. There were even reports of families being displaced from homes.

flooding impacted operations for Lighthorse in their facility. In a press release issued from the office of public relations, the tribe has to move headquarters to a temporary loca-

"Lighthorse Department's building flooded during the recent flash flood," the release said. "During this move we expect to have delays in returning non-emergency operational correspondence. "

The release also stated

that much of the department's computers, desks, phones and equipment have been damaged and are being rehoused. Myskoke Media will update on where the department will rehouse as soon as the information is made available.

SEQUOYAH GRADUATE SIGNED ON WITH OBU CHEER CITIZEN LYNDEE HAMMER CONTINUES HER EDUCATION THROUGH CHEERLEADING AT OBU

Lani Hansen

SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma- Muscogee citizen LynDee Hammer signed on with Oklahoma Baptist University Cheer team for the 2021-2022 season.

Hammer is the daughter of Sunny and Jeremy Hammer of Tahlequah, OK. She graduated from Tahlequah-Sequoyah High School in May. Hammer was on the Sequoyah varsity cheer team all four years of high school. She was a three-time most outstanding cheerleader and upcoming leader.



LynDee Hammer, Sequoyah graduate signed on with Oklahoma Baptist University Cheer team.

(Submission)

Hammer has been cheering since middle school, and when she got into high school she knew becoming a cheerleader was a goal. Her passion for cheer kept her close to her dad, who stood on the sidelines as one of the football coaches. As a high school cheerleader, she was able to cheer for her younger brother when he joined high school sports.

Cheering in high school was cut short one year for Hammer, as the Sequoyah athletics program did not want their students involved in any sports activities due to the pandemic. Hammer was unable to enjoy being on the cheer team her senior year because of the virus.

"I missed getting to cheer with my dad on the sidelines because he coached football, and I missed cheering for my brother," Hammer said. "Also, I was going to be captain this year for the team so I missed that opportunity. "

During her senior year, Hammer joined a competitive cheer squad to continue honing her skills. She was with the Okie Elite Senior Nebula out of Muskogee, OK. This competitive cheer team went to competition from January to May. Her last competition in May was in Galveston, TX where they placed third.

Hammer will be joining

the OBU Bison cheer team in the fall. She is looking forward to the gospel atmosphere, the relationship she tends to build with her teammates through Christ and the home-feeling of

"I went to a recruitment day there with the team and it had already felt so welcoming, I'm just glad to be a part of that," Hammer said.

Aside from cheering, Hammer will also be studying and she plans to get her degree in Bachelors of Science in Nursing. She wanted to thank her parents, her coaches and those who supported her in everything she has accomplished.

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The Mvskoke News is mailed from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled Muscogee (Creek) citizens' households upon request. Inquiries should be directed to Mvskoke Media.

To submit a change of address or a letter to the editor, call: 918-732-7720 or email: info@mvskokemedia.com.



MUSCOGEE CITIZEN RUNS AFTER DREAMS CITIZEN CHOSEN FOR THE CROSS COUNTRY NATIVE ALL-STATE

Morgan Taylor

REPORTER

HENRYETTA, Oklahoma -The Henryetta Knight Cross Country runner Austin Green has been invited to participate in 2021 Oklahoma Native All-State for cross-country. Green is the son of Shelly and Blue Cantrell of Henryetta, the grandson Lesa Cantrell of Henryetta, Janice and the late Daniel Green of Weleetka, Ranae and Gene Snell of Weleetka, and Timothy Cantrell of Henryetta.

The Muscogee Nation will host the 2021 Oklahoma Native All-State event and it will take place Saturday June 12 at 8 a.m. where Green will compete in a

Henryetta High School Cross-Country Coach Tim Gillispie nominated Green to compete in the event.

"The application process was really smooth," Gillispie said. " We submitted the information to the committee and they were



Austin Green has been apart of the cross-country team at Henryetta since middle school. (Submission)

the ones who made that decision. I believe it was a combination of his state, regional, and work ethic throughout his career here."

Gillispie claims choosing Green to be nominated was the "easy part."

"What I have seen of his work ethic since he was in junior high and continued to see through high school... His continual

success, whenever we would run at meets and how well he would do, his times coming down and the progress he was making as those contests and just the fact that he's a really good kid," Gillispie said.

Green honed some of his skills running around his family's land on Tiger Mt. Running the rugged hills and rocky trails east of Henryetta made Green

somewhat of a natural competitor. His mother, Shelly Cantrell said his practice gave him a competitive edge.

"He would just take off and all over the land here," Cantrell said. "If you can run around on this 160 acres, through these conditions, rocky inclines, woods, well the cross country meets terrain is easier."

According to Gillispie, Green was a four-year state qualifier during high school.

Green said he has been apart of the Cross-Country program at Henryetta since he was in the sixth grade.

"In sixth grade I had no intentions of being in athletics, but it was Coach Gillispie who reached out to me and got me started then I just took off with it," Green explains.

During his senior year, Green worked to become a notable runner.

"I became one of the faster kids and I guess my time was just fast enough to qualify for Native All-State," Green said. "It's pretty exciting, actually."

Though Green feels like he may have a pretty good chance at the meet, he said he wants to have fun.

"I just want to have one last fun race," Green explains. "I want to have a good time with other people I know going and it just be a fun event for all of

While Green focuses on the enjoyment of competition and love of training that allows him to have fun competing he is known as a leader.

"He was a leader all the way through from his freshman year on," Gillispie claims of Green. "It's always a proud moment when that happens."

"Makes you feel like what you been doing and what they have been doing pays off."

According to Green and Coach Gillispie, the Henryetta runner will plans to Rogers State University where he hopes to run cross county. If successful, He will be following in Henryetta cross country record setter Colton Greens foot steps, who also went onto run at Rogers State.



Photo of Darius Lowe that was taken while he was picking up trash around the neighborhood. (Submission)

MVSKOKE TEEN DEDICATES TIME TO COMMUNITY **SERVICE**

MEMBERS OF A FACEBOOK GROUP **COMMEND MUSCOGEE CITIZEN** FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Morgan Taylor

REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma -A Facebook post of a young native man has spread throughout social media for all the right reasons.

A post in a community watch page showed a young man walking his two dogs and pushing a wheelbarrow holding a large trash bin. The post was made by Jerri Van Ellen, non-native group member who said, "Shout out to this young man walking around Okmulgee picking up trash out of people's ditches!"

At the time of the post, the young man was unidentified. With the help of the group members' shares he was later identified as Muscogee citizen Darius Lowe.

According to Lowe's grandmother Sharon Whitecloud, Lowe does handy-man work and when he is not working he likes to stay busy.

"He does small jobs here and there and does this kind

of stuff all the time."

The grandmother claims this was over in his neighborhood where he lives in Okmulgee.

"He's really a nice person at heart, he tries to help people, elders especially so he's always doing odd things like that," Whitecloud said. "He was just out walking his dog and I guess it just hit him to do that on that day."

Lowe remains distanced from social media and was unaware of the post.

"I had told him about the post because he didn't see it," Whitecloud explained. "I said 'Your picture is on Facebook about picking up trash around the neighborhood' and he smiled and said, 'Oh really?' and that was about it."

grandmother Lowe's claims he's not a big fan of attention.

The post about Lowe received 338 reactions and 38 shares. All the comments reflected gratitude to Lowe for his work in the commu-



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NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERRIDES THREE VETOS

COUNCIL APPROVES CITIZEN VOTE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND **OVERRIDES MCN CHIEF'S VETO LEGISLATION**

Morgan Taylor

REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma -Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council meeting was held May 22 via teleconference.

The National Council addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

Veto Message:

NCA 21-039 Law of the MCN amending NCA 20-025 (Law of the MCN authorizing the expenditure of Federal, State, and Local Funds received by the MCN to provide tribal services in response to the COVID-19 Virus) Returned as veto May 14.

NCA 21-039 amends NCA 20-025 regarding funding expenditure and the termination date of the Nation's State of Emergency, which has passed, April 24. Principal Chief Vetoed the initial amendment saying it "is vague in that it does not articulate which funds are at issue..." Veto Override, 14-1-0 Rep. Thomasene Yahola Osborn voted against.

NCA 21-041 Law of the MCN establishing guidelines regarding the authorization of the expenditure of the American Rescue Plan Funding. Returned as veto May 14.

There is a need to establish guidelines for funding, as prior authorizations from the CARES Act funding are not applicable. Principal Chief returned as veto stating "Section four of NCA 21-041 provides for such a monthly report for the Controller's office. There is no need for Standing Committee Chairs to contact employees regarding expenditures of funds that have gone through the full budget process as required by Section 3(A)..." Veto Override, 13-2-0 Rep. Thomasene Yahola Osborn and Rep. Mark Randolph voted

NCA 21-045 Law of the MCN creating a new law in Title 30, Chapter 9 entitled "Government Records" Returned as a Veto May 14.

The law provides the National Council members with availability to all records as defined in the discharge of its governmental duties and to provide procedures under which the National Council and its members shall



Meetings held via zoom and teleconference.

MN File Photo)

obtain records. The Principal Chief returned as a veto stating, the legislation is "unconstitutional" and "the role of the National Council is to legislate." Veto Override 12-3-0 Rep. Charles McHenry, Rep. Thomasene Yahola Osborn and Rep. Mark Randolph voted against.

Order of Business:

TR 21-069 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Temporary Operating Permit with Warrior Fireworks for the operation of one temporary fireworks sales facility on tribal trust land. Sponsored by Rep. Darrell Proctor

Warrior Fireworks has agreed to pay the Nation the sum of \$4,000.00 in exchange for authorization to have a first right of refusal to lease the property at a fair rate and at the same time for the next three years. Adopted, 14-0-0

TR 21-070 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing Contract with Wagnon Construction, INC. Sponsored by Rep. Charles McHenry.

Wagnon Construction, INC. will frame, deck, provide trim and siding, spray insulation and provide full guttering for three homes for the cost of \$228,800.00. Failed, 5-9-0 Rep. Mark Randolph, Lucian Tiger III, Joyce Deer, Robert Hufft, Adam Jones III, William Lowe, Patrick Freeman, James Jennings, Anna Marshall voted against.

TR 21-071 Resolution of

Principal Chief to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement between the Nation and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for a drainage improvement project located at U.S. Highway 75 and SH-56. Sponsored by Rep. Charles McHenry.

The agreement includes constructing a storm sewer in the ditch along the roadways in order to reduce erosion and create a safer roadside area. The project is going to cost \$320,000.00 of Tribal Transportation Program Funding. Adopted 14-0-0

TR 21-072 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Alabama Quarssarte Tribal Town, Kialegee Tribal Town, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town for the method of allocation for the Nation's proportional share of funding for Housing and Urban Development Funds and the FY 2022 Indian Housing Block Grant. Sponsored by Rep. Thomasene Yahola Osborn.

HUD determined that the MCN, Alabama Quarssarte Tribal Town, Kialegee Tribal Town, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town have overlapping areas for providing services for the needs portion of the Indian Housing Block Grant Formula. HUD communicated that if the Nation and the Tribal Towns could not agree, HUD would choose the allocation for proportional needs. Adopted, 14-0-0

TR 21-075 Resolution of the MCN approving a memorandum of understanding

between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Sponsored by Representative William Lowe.

The MCN and Office of Attorney General seek secure advice, consultation, and any necessary services to identify and target for prosecution criminal enterprise groups. The Oklahoma Safe Trails Task Force (STTF) enhances federal, tribal, state, and local law enforcement. The FBI and MCN Office of the Attorney General has Investigator Robert Frost as a member of STTF. Adopted, 14-0-0

TR 21-076 Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination of John Freeman to serve on the Muscogee International, LLC (MI, LLC) Board of Directors. Sponsored by Rep. Travis Scott.

Principal Chief nominated John Freeman to serve on the Board of Directors for MI, LLC upon confirmation and ending May 31, 2024. Adopted, 13-0-1 Rep. Patrick Freeman abstained.

TR 21-077 Resolution confirming the nomination of Dr. Michael Hughes to serve on the Muscogee, LLC (MI, LLC) Board of Directors. Sponsored by Rep. Travis Scott.

Principal Chief nominated Dr. Michael Hughes to serve on the Board of Directors for MI, LLC upon confirmation and ending May 31, 2024. Adopted, 14-0-0

TR 21-078 Resolution of the MCN supporting the Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce for the Tulsa's Future Road to Recovery Campaign. Sponsored by Rep. William Lowe.

The Tulsa Future Road to Recovery is a one-year funding campaign and strategic work plan for 2021 for today's urgent need for recovery and stabilization. The Nation has a self-governance fund available to support and commit a one-year investment to this. Failed, 3-11-0 Rep. Anna Marshall, Charles McHenry, Thomasene Yahola Osborn, Darrell Proctor, Mark Randolph, Mary Crawford, Joyce Deere, Patrick Freeman, Robert Hufft, James Jennings, Adam Jones III voted against.

TR 21-079 Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination of Mary Mashunkashey as the Tax Commissioner of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Sponsored by Rep. Joseph Hicks.

Principal Chief nominated Mary Mashunkashey to serve as the Tax Commissioner of the MCN, with

a term beginning upon confirmation and ending concurrent with the term of Principal Chief. Failed, 5-8-1 Rep. Joseph Hicks, James Jennings, Adam Jones III, Darrell Proctor, Lucian Tiger III, Mary Crawford, Joyce Deere, Patrick Freeman voted against. Rep Anna Marshall abstained.

TR 21-080 Resolution of the MCN amending TR 19-076 (A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to suspend all speappropriations and donations) as amended by TR 20-150. Sponsored by Rep. James Jennings.

TR 19-076 allowed Duck Creek Indian Community to accept funds to offset income loss from its Smoke Shop for the past five years. The Nation must suspend all special appropriations with the exception of a one-time special appropriation for Duck Creek. Postpone to June session, 13-1-0 Rep. James Jennings voted against.

TR 21-081 Resolution of the MCN to enter into Amendment No. 2 to the loan agreement with BOKF, NA dba Bank of Oklahoma and the Lenders Party thereto. Sponsored by Rep. Patrick Freeman.

Amendment No. 2 makes necessary updates and modifications to the Loan Agreement for real estate carve out, removal of Libor floor, new lender allocations and a New Liquidity Maintenance Covenant. Adopted, 14-0-0

TR 21-082 Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination of Tim Goodvoice to serve on the Myskoke Loan Fund Board. Sponsored by Rep. Adam Jones III.

Muscogee (Creek) citizen Tim Goodvoice was nominated to serve on the Myskoke Loan Fund Board, beginning upon confirmation and expiring three years from confirmation. Adopted, 14-0-0

TR 21-083 Resolution of the MCN authorizing demolition related to the construction of the GOAB Administration Building Project. Sponsored by Rep. Patrick Freeman Jr.

Under MCNCA Title 17 the demolition of the old casino sits on the site of a project for the construction of GOAB's new administrative building with parking. Adopted, 14-0-0

NCA 21-048 Law of the MCN authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the Oklahoma State University Office of Rural Health for the Small Hospital Improvement Program (ship) grant. Sponsored by Rep. Anna Marshall.

The MCN Department of Health is the recipient of grant funds from the OSU Office of Rural Health of \$10,076.74. Adopted, 14-0-

NCA 21-050 Law of the MCN appropriates funds to the MCN Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the purchase of lifetime hunting and fishing licenses with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Sponsored by Rep. Mark Randolph (\$200,000)

The legislation would create an opportunity to work with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife

REGULAR-5



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Brothers

Funeral Home

APPROVAL OF LICENSES FOR FISHING, **HUNTING, AND FIREWORK STANDS**

MORE ROADWORK ON HWY 75 IN OKMULGEE FUNDED BY TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Morgan Taylor

REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma -A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held May 11 via teleconference.

All passed legislation is subject to full council approval during the regular session.

LNC addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 21-069 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Temporary Operating Permit with Warrior Fireworks for the operation of one temporary fireworks sales facility on tribal trust land. Sponsored by Rep. Darrell Proctor

Warrior Fireworks has agreed to pay the Nation the sum of \$4,000.00 in exchange for authorization to have a first right of refusal to lease the property at a fair rate and at the same time for the next three years. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-070 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing Contract with Wagnon Construction, INC. Sponsored by Rep. Charles McHenry.

Wagnon Construction, INC. will frame, deck, provide trim and siding, spray insulation and provide full guttering for three homes for the cost of \$228,800.00. Do pass. 4-0.

TR 21-071 Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Memorandum of



HUD plans to disperse funds between the Nation and Tribal Towns. (MN File Photo)

Agreement between the Nation and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for a drainage improvement project located at U.S. Highway 75 and SH-56. Sponsored by Rep. Charles McHenry.

The agreement includes constructing a storm sewer in the ditch along the roadways in order to reduce erosion and create a safer roadside area. The project is going to cost \$320,000.00 of Tribal Transportation Program Funding. Do pass. 4-0.

TR 21-072 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Alabama Quarssarte Tribal Town, Kialegee Tribal Town, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town for the method of allocation for the Nation's proportional share of funding for Housing and Urban Development Funds and the FY 2022 Indian Housing Block Grant. Sponsored by Rep.

Thomasene Yahola Osborn.

HUD determined that the MCN, Alabama Quarssarte Tribal Town, Kialegee Tribal Town, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town have overlapping areas for providing services for the needs portion of the Indian Housing Block Grant Formula. HUD communicated that if the Nation and the Tribal Towns could not agree, HUD would choose the allocation for proportional needs. Do pass. 4-0

NCA 21-049 Law of the MCN authorizing an appropriation of funds for professional landscape architecture services to be performed on the MCN campus. Sponsored by Rep. Darrell Proctor (\$61,330.00)

The Nation seeks to develop a campus-wide landscape and irrigation plan to beautify the Nation's properties and set campus landscape standards. A proposal from Kimley-Horn

LNC - 6

REGULAR

Continued from Page 4

Conservation and Brandt Solutions to randomly purchase 250 Lifetime Hunting and Fishing licenses each year for MCN citizens. Failed, 0-14-0

NCA 21-052 Law of the MCN amending MCNCA Title 37, Chapter 2, Entitled "Budget and Finance." Sponsored by Rep. William Lowe.

Under substitution 2-203 Permanent Fund, the investment committee will consist of the Principal Chief or designee, the Tribal Administrator or designee, the Controller or designee, the Attorney General or designee, the Secretary of Health or designee and the Speaker of National Council or designee. Adopted, 14-0-0

NCA 21-053 Law of the MCN to amend the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to add article XIV Independent Free Press. Sponsored by Rep. Mark Randolph.

Independent free press legislation, if passed, would allow the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to vote to amend the Constitution to include language protecting the citizen's right to free press. Adopted, 13-2-0 Rep. Anna Marshall and Rep. Joyce Deere voted

NCA 21-054 Law of the MCN authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission for Fiscal Year 2021. Sponsored by Rep. William Lowe.

The appropriation funds will be used to hire additional agents for the Tax Commission Office due to the rising citizenship numbers from the McGirt decision. Adopted, 8-7-0 Rep. Anna Marshall, Lucian Tiger III, Joyce Deere, Patrick Freeman Jr. Joseph Hicks, James Jennings, Adam Jones III

NCA 21-055 Law of the MCN authorizing a special appropriation to Duck Creek Indian Community. Sponsored by Rep. James Jennings.

The appropriation will help with losses of the past five years at Duck Creek. Wish to enter into an agreement with Boswell for construction of parking lot expansion, etc. Postpone to June, 14-0-0

NCA 21-056 Law of the MCN appropriating funds for Public Relation Services for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Sponsored by Rep. Adam Jones III.

The funds will be used for public relations from Schnake Turnbo Frank's team, who has decades of experience working in public relations, media relations, and crisis communication. Adopted 14-0-0

Meetings and agendas and can viewed at www. mcnnc.com.







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SISTERS TAKE STATE FOR HILLDALE GOLF

MUSCOGEE SISTERS ADDESEN AND EMERSEN PLAY GOLF AS A FAMILY AFFAIR

Morgan Taylor

REPORTER

HILLDALE, Oklahoma -Hilldale high school golfers and sisters Addesen and Emersen Glass are no strangers to hitting the greens and winning big. The two are citizens of the Muscogee nation and came back from a COVID year to take state.

The sisters are daughters of Suzanne and Dennis (Jake) Glass and the granddaughters of MCN National Council Representative Mary Jones-Crawford.

Addesen, 15, finished her sophomore year and Emersen, 17, graduated in May. Both have been on the golf course since they were about ten years old. It was their father, Jake, who got them started.

"Jake started taking them to the golf course with him around that time," Suzanne said. "He enrolled them to take lessons and play with the U.S. Golf kids team, and with that, they would play tournaments on the weekends."

The duo played for the Hilldale Golf team throughout their athletic careers since middle school at Hilldale. Last year due to COVID, the pair was not able to compete.

According to Suzanne, the girls continued to practice and play during that year on their own time.

"They were on track to win state last year, but due to the pandemic, they didn't have a season," Suzanne said.

Coming back this year, the Hilldale Golf Team was "coming up short in each tournament," the mother said.

"They were placing second every time and coming so



Muscogee Citizens Addesen and Emmersen Glass pictured with golf coach Oren Sikes after winning state.

(Submission)

close."

At the State Championship, the golf God's delivered.

"There was a tie with Kingfisher which led to a twohole playoff," Suzanne said. "The team ended up winning the state championship by the two-hole playoff."

Emersen claims these moments require a lot of mental control.

"It is very intense and really nerve-racking," Emersen said. "I just knew that we had to stay focused and go get it because we wanted this for so long."

Golf has given Emersen

lessons she will carry with her throughout her life.

"I like working as a team. It was an overall good experience that made us closer as a team," Emersen said. "It has taught me to stay strong mentally because golf is a mental game, and you can't give up when your down or you have a bad game."

Emersen plans to attend Connor's State College, where she will study nursing. Though she will not be playing golf competitively anymore, she will continue to play as a recreational sport.

"I will miss it, but I technically won't be quitting. I will continue to play for fun."

LNC

Continued from Page 5

and Associates, INC to perform services: Lanscape Site Evaluation and Information Gathering, Develop Campus-Wide Landscape and Materials Pallets, Landscape Plan for Main Campus, Irrigation Plan for Main Campus, Hardscape Plan for Main Campus, Landscape Plan for Council House, Irrigation Plan for Council House, Landscape Plan for Housing and Food Distribution, Irrigation Plan for Housing and Food Distribution, Opinion of Probable Construction costs, Meetings and Coordination with MCN. Failed. 1-3.

NCA 21-050 Law of the MCN appropriating funds to the MCN Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the purchase of lifetime hunting and fishing licenses with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Sponsored by Rep. Mark Randolph (\$200,000)

The legislation would create an opportunity to work with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and Brandt Solutions to randomly purchase 250 Lifetime Hunting and Fishing licenses each year for MCN citizens. Forwarded to BFJ. Do pass. 4-0

Complete agendas and meetings can be found at www. mcnnc.com.



918.732.7768 • BDAWSON@MVSKOKEMEDIA.COM



for CRIME VICTIMS on the MUSCOGEE NATION RESERVATION



The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is committed to working with State and Federal Partners to ensure public safety on the Reservation. The change in jurisdictional authority and dismissal of cases by State Courts, to be filed in either Tribal and/or Federal Court, is likely to leave victims/survivors/families with many questions. These changes require increased communication amongst Tribal, State and Federal partners and ultimately require increased communication to victims and their familes, of which the MCN is committed to providing.

For questions regarding cases, updates, supportive services or other information, please refer all crime victims to:

MCN FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM (FVPP) 918-732-7979

Providing confidential services to Native and non-Native victims/survivors of a variety of violent crimes to promote safety, healing and justice.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Assistance with Victim's Compensation
- Assistance in filing protective orders
- Court Advocacy in Tribal, State, Federal Courts
- Accompaniment to and preparation for court proceedings
- Safety Planning
- Supportive services
- Access to civil legal assistance
- Serve as Liaison with courts and prosecutors to keep updated on case status
- Provide access to safe housing
- Referrals for counseling and other supportive services
- Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Exams
- Information and referral to meet survivor needs

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

MCN LIGHTHORSE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT MCN DISTRICT COURT MCN OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

918-732-7800 918-758-1400 918-295-9720

MUSCOGEE NATION TO HOST NATIVE ALL-STATE

THE OKLAHOMA NATIVE ALL-STATE GAMES WILL BE HELD AT THE MUSCOGEE NATION FACILITIES

Morgan Taylor

REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma -The Muscogee Nation was able to host the 2021 Okla-Native All-State Games on June 12.

MN Department of Recreation Program Development Supervisor Bryan McGertt said he threw the idea to the association about the MN hosting.

"They were real receptive," McGertt said. "They did their research on, as far as the Recreation Department and liked what they saw, and we continued to talk and created a good relationship."

McGertt also said that the Muscogee Nation has been a big sponsor of the games in years past.

"It wasn't foreign to them," said McGertt. "There was already a relationship there, and we just took it a little further by offering our facilities."

The tribe was to host in 2020, but all activities and events were canceled due to the pandemic.

"There are good years, and there are bad years," McGertt explained. "Notably, 2020 was not a good year for the association, and they are on the rebound again, so for us to be on that cuff to help rebuild this thing and offer our facilities make me glad to be a part of it."

"We set our sights on '21, and here we are."

The day kicked off with the cross-country 5k event in



Native High School students compete at the Claude Cox Omniplex to kick off Oklahoma Native All-State on June 12. (Morgan Taylor)

the morning, followed by a fast pitch girl's softball game, both of which will take place at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

A baseball game was held at the Okmulgee High School baseball fields.

"We do not have a field for baseball, so Okmulgee School offered," McGertt explained.

After the baseball and softball games concluded, the basketball games for boys and girls took place at the Mvskoke Dome.

During these events, a golf tournament also took place at the Muscogee Nation's Fountainhead Creek Golf Course in Checotah, which kicked off simultaneously as the cross-country meet.

Once the events ended, a banquet with awards and honors was held at the Okmulgee High School Brock Memorial Gym that

McGertt claims the banquet seated around 300 people.

Spectators and fans were encouraged to come to watch the events as they take place.

"We are highly encouraging people to come to be a part of the fan base," McGertt said. "It's the fans that make the experience for the kids."

Mvskoke Media will update coverage with results of the competition.

SUBMISSIONS



Bruner Family Reunion

The 40th Annual Bruner Family reunion will be held on Saturday, July 3rd at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church in Carson, OK, starting at 10AM. Potluck lunch at 11AM. Planned activities include cornhole & volleyball tournaments, childrens games, tug-ofwar, pie eating contests. Everyone invited to come fellowship and join in on the activities! For more info, call or text 405-712-3535.

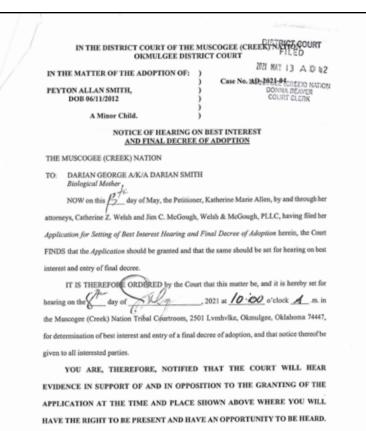
All Sports Training Camps

Participants will learn quickness, speed, agility, and balance a foundation to all sports, taught by Thomas Lott a former professional and college athlete. The MCN Diabetes Prevention program sponsors the camp that is open to students from grade 1-12. The camp will take place from 8 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Free Health screenings provided. Pre-registration and on-site registration available. The camp is scheduled for Bristow June 17, and Eufaula June 25. For more information contact Sandi at 918-623-6437 or imgoldsandi@yahoo.com.



LEGALS





MCN'S TOURISM AND RECREATION **MAKES HISTORY**

BACONE COLLEGE SOFTBALL TEAM USED CLAUDE COX OMNIPLEX AS HOME FIELD FOR THE 2021 SEASON

Lani Hansen

SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma-The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Claude Cox Omniplex served as the home field for Bacone College's Lady Warriors softball team during their 2021 season.

According to MCN's Tourism and Recreation Program Development Supervisor Brian McGertt, recently Muskogee Public Schools approved a bond to purchase property off of Bacone College to build a new sports facility. The property that was purchased is where the softball and baseball fields stood for Bacone College.

"Muskogee decided they wanted to pay to have another baseball and softball field for Bacone, but they have to move it into another area of the campus," McGertt said. "Not being able to get that done immediately, they reached out to us as far as a place to play for softball. This not really being their home field but have adopted it, they have done well here."

With Bacone softball using the facilities, it has been good for the MCN Tourism and Recreation Department to host college games on the fields since they have already hosted college basketball games in the dome. McGertt said they made history, having college games in the dome and now on the softball fields.



Bacone College Softball Team used Claude Cox Omniplex as home field for the 2021 season. (Submission)

"We feel really good about that," McGertt said about hosting Bacone softball. "We were able to help Bacone out, and it was good for our department and program on some of the things we were trying to do here."

Bacone ended their season in April with a 12-24 record for the whole season but went 3-5 at home. McGertt said they met with Bacone athletics about next season, and the college is hoping to have their softball and baseball fields finished

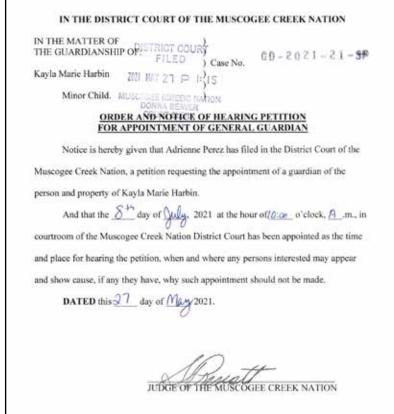
"That wouldn't stop the relationship though," McGertt said. "We were talking about maybe hosting some festivals for in the future or even some special games with other Native American institutions such as Haskell and Northern New Mexico."

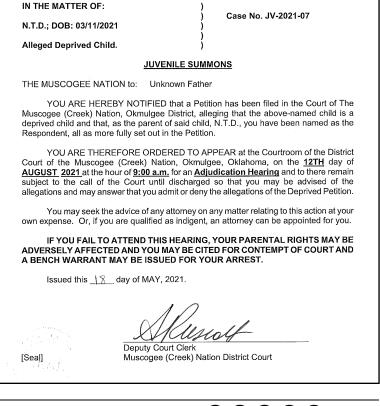
MCN Tourism and Recreation drew some funds through the gate and concessions for their facilities during the softball season.

McGertt said it was an excellent way to promote sports activity in the area and provide entertainment. They have received positive feedback.

As the host for Bacone softball, the department was able to help and support the team. They provided concessions, getting water, medical and safety measures for the team.

"We were the administrators on-site," McGertt said. "Us being the host, we had to make sure everything ran smoothly. It's been a wonderful experience and an educational part to help our staff to know what goes into college athletics."





IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Fiscal Year 2021

In accordance with the following legislation:

NCA 20-050 A law of the Muscogee Creek Nation amending NCA 20-038 (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditures of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act") funds received from the United States Department of the Treasury to establish the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Coronavirus Relief Fund Program.)

SECTION 7. REPORTING. A report shall be provided bi-weekly by the Office of the Principal Chief to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and Myskoke Media documenting all expenditures of the CARES Act funds.

Total received/earned \$312,683,395.99

Total expenditures and encumbrances for FY20 and FY21 as of this report date equals, \$300,353,556.87

ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROGRAM NAME/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT BUDGETED	EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	CASH BALANCE
50100 51100 56010	PRINCIPAL CHIEF Salary & Wages-PT/Other Fringe-PT/Other Donations/Contributions	86,000.00 10,449.00 49,187.20	86,000.00 10,449.00 10,000.00	-	39,187.20
53000 54000 58010 59220	SECRETARY OF NATION Supplies Contractual Construction Grants	2,700.00 9,245,034.70 1,400.00 302,610.85	7,394,884.91 1,400.00 300,114.32	1,848,721.23	2,700.00 1,428.56 2,496.53
53000 59050 59440	TOURISM & RECREATION Supplies Food Purchases Incidentals	1,537.38 681,025.44 4,048.79	1,537.38 670,043.79 4,048.79		10,981.65
53000 55210 59220	CONTRACTING EMPLOYMENT Supplies Communications - Other Grants	1,700.00 3,000.00 6,825,910.80	1,691.75 80.40 5,040,784.89	-	8.2 2,919.6 1,785,125.9
53000 53010 54000 55210 55300 85500	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Supplies Software/Licenses Contractual Communications- Other Bldg Maint/Repairs Equipment	806,070.56 1,007,630.11 273,594.25 250,620.89 164,818.95 3,535,033.48	594,350.31 952,688.72 54,626.40 131,868.21 62,686.13 1,765,781.12	159,577.00 53,450.58 60,097.35 75,505.22 1,757,518.69	52,143.2 1,490.8 158,870.5 118,752.6 26,627.6 11,733.6
50000 50020 50100 51000 53000 53290 55300 85400 85500	FLEET MANAGEMENT Salary & Wages - FT Salary & Wages - O/T Over 1.5 Salary & Wages - PT/Other Fringe - FT Supplies Postage/Shipping Bldg Maint/Repairs Vehicles Equipment	5,000.00 25,000.00 13,291.20 20,199.00 1,600.96 3,149,942.83 50,000.00 315.00 151,476.00	1,212.60 608.04 14,695.20 1025.02 1,785.47 1,460,403.70 34,341.98	123,039.75	3,787.4 24,391.9 -1,404.0 19,173.9 -184.5 1,566,499.3 15,658.0 315.0 5,455.0
50000 50020 51000 53000 54000 57000 59071 59072	SOCIAL SERVICES Salary & Wages - FT Salary & Wages - O/T Over 1.5 Fringe - FT Supplies Contractual Indirect Costs Direct Assist - Income Support Direct Assist - Hardship	94,073.60 14,175.00 61,228.22 5,502.79 465,411.29 56,333,581.41 35,934,588.07	94,556.13 9,404.41 65,973.69 5,466.79 456,117.05 15,320.22 56,130,000.00 35,748,400.00	9,294.24 - - -	-482.5 4,770.5 -4,745.4 36.0 -15,320.2 203,581.4 186,188.0
53000	SENIOR SERVICES Supplies	200,000.00	185,364.01	-	14,635.9
53000 59050 85050 85170 85400 85500	FOOD DISTRIBUTION Supplies Food Purchases Renovations Construction Vehicles Equipment	79,999.64 146,239.79 130,000.00 493,871.53 63,417.60 525,000.00	75,214.69 146,239.79 29,933.00 131,261.54 63,417.60 262,500.00	95,869.80 973.50 262,500.00	4,784.9 4,197.2 361,636.4
85170	ELDERLY NUTRITION Construction	540,000.00	167,589.95	324,579.98	47,830.0
50000 50020 51000 53000 56030 57000 59073	SECRETARY OF EDUCATION Salary& Wages - FT Salary& Wages - O/T over 1.5 Fringe - FT Supplies Stipends/Honorariums Indirect Costs Direct Assistance - Ed Support	3,018.44 73,329.31 42,925.42 779,513.00 25,000.00	2,801.83 51,412.57 66,457.30 545,116.77 10,000.00 10,835.23 2,176,831.53	-	216.6 21,916.7 -23,531.8 234,396.7 15,000.6 -10,835.7 3,656.7
53000 85010 85170 85500	MCN MEAT PROCESSING PLANT Supplies Architect & Engineering Construction Equipment REAL ESTATE SERVICES	100,000.00 1,165,012.00 14,800,000.00 1,234,988.00	1,072,217.73 5,640,156.29 1,070,272.18	92,794.27 9,158,611.71 118,919.13	100,000.0 1,232.0 45,796.0
54000 59220	Contractual CULTURAL PRESERVATION Grants	12,374.00 2,189,999.00	9,850.83 2,189,998.95	-	2,523.
50100 51100 53000 85010 85170 85500	TRIBAL CONSTRUCTION Salary & Wages - PT/Other Fringe - PT/Other Supplies Architect & Engineering Construction Equipment	19,234.80 2,337.03 38,975.00 145,244.88 14,594,850.53 130,110.00	19,234.80 2,337.03 32,490.00 107,210.39 13,236,527.13 130,110.00	- - - 1,230,853.40	6,485.0 38,034.4 127,470.0
58010	SECRETARY OF INTERIOR AFFAIRS Construction	313,297.00	297,631.64	3,460.36	12,205.0
53000 54000	OFFICE OF JUSTICE Supplies Contractual	26,799.29 24,738.00	26,799.29 24,738.00		
54000 55300 85500	OFFICE OF TAX COMMISSION Contractual Bldg Maint/Repairs Equipment	36,300.00 340.80 1.03	19,000.00 -1,159.20	6,503.00 1,159.20	10,797. 340. 1.0
53000 54000	CITIZENSHIP BOARD Supplies Contractual	177,704.50 231,500.00	138,535.80 142,900.00	26,670.00	12,498.′ 88,600.
85500	LIGHTHORSE ADMINISTRATION Equipment	56,790.00	56,790.00	-	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
53000	NATIONAL COUNCIL Supplies	623.34	623.34	-	
53310 85500	DISTRICT COURT Equipment Maint/Repair Equipment	10,512.00 176,011.68	10,512.00 159,761.68	16,250.00	
90110	SECRETARY OF HEALTH Transfer Out	-	11,279,552.97	-	-11,279,552.
70110	TOTAL	160,506,303.67	150,944,450.08	15,472,787.41	-5,910,93